Internet is a conglomeration of networks having presence in over two hundred countries. It is difficult for any single Government agency to exercise control over it. The solution lies mainly with content/service providers in deploying firewall or security audit system. Penalities and punishment have been provided in the IT Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16-12-1999. This legislation when enacted would act as a deterrent to the activities of the hackers.

(c) No such information is available.

(d) IT and internet security are evolving areas world-wide and India is gearing itself to counter such threats.

Cyber Crime

2987. Dr. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scope of cyber crime in India is huge; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to wipe out the tremendous threat to the financial and the defence sectors in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Cyber crime in India is likely to be in line with such crimes elsewhere in the world. With the increasing use of Internet, technical preventive measures and practices, are continously being developed to counter such crimes. The IT Bill introduced in the Parliament, inter-alia, provides for penalty and compensation to prevent computer misuses and computer crime. A comprehensive set of security instructions have been issued to minimise the threat in the defence sector.

Amendment of Child Labour Act

2988. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to amend the Child Labour (Regulation and Prohibition) Act in near future; and